

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

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INFO AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
GETAVC/AMEMBASSY KINSHASA 397

C O N F I D E N T I A L CONAKRY 1284

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PDEV, PEPR, CG, RH, WA, IS, EG, GV
SUBJECT: REVIEW OF AFRICAN PROBLEMS WITH PRIME MINISTER BEAVOGUI

REF: (A) STATE 141940, (B) STATE 155777, (C) STATE 148408
(D) STATE 163024

1. SUMMARY: IN INTENSIVE HOUR AND A HALF WITH PRIME MINISTER
JULY 4 AMBASSADOR REVIEWED SEVERAL ISSUES LIKELY TO COME UP
AT KHARTOUM OAU SUMMIT. US VIEWS AND POSITIONS WERE PRESENTED
IN SOME DETAIL AND GENERALLY UNDERSTOOD, BUT PRIME MINISTER'S
REACTION WAS NOT ENCOURAGING ON ZAIRE, RHODESIA, OR NAMIBIA.
PM DID NOT THINK ZIONISM-RACISM ISSUE WOULD COME UP AT
KHARTOUM BUT HIS DIRECTOR OF CABINET WAS SURE IT WOULD AT
GENEVA. THEY WERE INCLINED TO LEAVE TO ARAB STATES THE
QUESTION OF EGYPTIAN PEACE INITIATIVES. GENERALLY NEGATIVE
TONE OF CONVERSATION MAY HAVE BEEN DUE TO PM'S ACUTE
ANNOYANCE OVER US UNRESPONSIVENESS TO GOG REQUEST FOR COASTAL
PATROL BOATS. END SUMMARY.

2. AMBASSADOR REQUESTED APPOINTMENT WITH PRIME MINISTER
BEAVOGUI AFTER LATTER'S RETURN FROM GULF STATES TRIP;
WAS RECEIVED MORNING JULY 4, REVIEWED US POSITIONS ON
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ZAIRE, RHODESIA, NAMIBIA, ZIONISM-RACISM AND EGYPTIAN
PEACE INITIATIVES, AND EXPRESSED HOPE THAT KHARTOUM
SUMMIT WOULD NOT CREATE COMPLICATIONS WITH REGARD TO
THESE SUBJECTS. PRIME MINISTER'S REACTION VARIED FROM
NEGATIVE TO UNCONCERNED.

A. ON ZAIRE BEAVOGUI ACKNOWLEDGED LIMITED NATURE

OF US ROLE BUT OBSERVED THAT IT HAD BEEN IN SUPPORT OF INTRODUCTION OF FOREIGN TROOPS INTO AFRICA, WHICH GOG OPPOSES. ECHOING VIEWS OF HIS DIRECTOR OF CABINET DIALLO (CONAKRY 1182), PM ASSERTED PROBLEM IN ZAIRE IS AN INTERNAL POLITICAL ONE WHICH STEMS FROM PRESIDENT MOBUTU'S MISHANDLING OF ZAIRE PEOPLE AND RESOURCES. AMBASSADOR POINTED AGAIN TO GENERAL AGREEMENT ON NEED FOR AND EFFORTS TOWARD REFORM, BUT PM SAID EXTERNAL EFFORTS TO BUOY UP ZAIRIAN ECONOMY ONLY SERVED TO MAINTAIN MOBUTU IN POWER AND PERPETUATE THE PROBLEM, WHICH CANNOT BE RESOLVED AS LONG AS HE IS THERE. ARGUMENT FROM VARIOUS ANGLES DID NOT BUDGE HIM.

B. ON RHODESIA, PM UNDERSTOOD US POSITION BUT EXPRESSED DISSATISFACTION AND IMPATIENCE OVER FAILURE OF UK EFFORTS OVER THE YEARS TO BRING MAJORITY RULE AND GET RID OF SMITH. HE REFUSED TO GRANT THAT THERE IS ANY CHANCE OF SUCCESS FOR CURRENT UK/US EFFORTS, EXPRESSED FULL SUPPORT FOR PATRIOTIC FRONT AND SCORN FOR MUZOREWA WHO "HAD ALLIED HIMSELF WITH SMITH", MAINTAINED THAT NOTHING COULD BE ACCOMPLISHED AS LONG AS SMITH IS ON THE SCENE, AND CHARGED THAT WESTERN POWERS ARE KEEPING SMITH THERE BY SUPPORTING SOUTH AFRICA, WHICH IN TURN SUPPORTS SMITH THROUGH VIOLATION OF SANCTIONS. DISCUSSION OF INDIVIDUAL ASPECTS OF THIS TANGLE DID NOT MOVE PM FROM HIS CONFIDENTIAL

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SIMPLISTIC VIEW, AND HE CONCLUDED NON-SPECIFICALLY THAT THE SUBJECT WOULD COME UP AND BE DEALT WITH BY CHIEFS OF STATE AT KHARTOUM.

C. MUCH THE SAME STORY ON NAMIBIA. PM DWELT ON FAILURE OF SOUTH AFRICA TO RELINQUISH CONTROL SO MANY YEARS AFTER UN HAD DECLARED ITS MANDATE TERMINATED, AND HE SHOWED LITTLE INTEREST IN EFFORTS OF CONTACT GROUP TO MOVE SITUATION TOWARD ELECTIONS AND INDEPENDENCE. IN ALL THREE OF THESE CASES (A, B, AND C ABOVE), PM'S RESPONSE TO US DESIRE TO SEEK PEACEFUL SOLUTION, AVOID CIVIL WAR, BLOODSHED AND DANGER OF INTRODUCTION OF OUTSIDE FORCES WAS TO REITERATE WOODENLy THAT EUROPEANS SHOULD WITHDRAW AND LEAVE PROBLEMS FOR RESOLUTION BY AFRICANS (PRESUMABLY THROUGH INTERNAL STRUGGLE FOR POWER).

D. PM HAD NO PARTICULAR FEELINGS ON ZIONISM-RACISM ISSUE, DID NOT EXPECT IT TO COME UP AT KHARTOUM, AND REGARDED IT AS A MATTER FOR THE ARAB STATES TO DEAL WITH. HIS DIRECTOR OF CABINET DIALLO AGREED IT WAS UNLIKELY TO ARISE AT KHARTOUM BUT ASSERTED IT WAS CERTAIN TO BE BROUGHT UP AT GENEVA

WORLD CONFERENCE TO COMBAT RACISM AND RACIAL DISCRIMINATION. DIALLO EXPRESSED PERSONAL VIEW THAT ZIONISM IS INDEED A FORM OF RACISM. WHEN AMBASSADOR CHALLENGED HIM ON THIS, HE ASKED FOR AIDE-MEMOIRE ON THE SUBJECT.

E. PM LIKEWISE SHOWED LITTLE INTEREST IN THE QUESTION OF EGYPTIAN PEACE INITIATIVES, WHICH HE WAS AGAIN INCLINED TO LEAVE TO ARAB STATES. HE MADE CLEAR GOG HAD NO DESIRE TO CRITICIZE SADAT, BUT SAID GOG DID NOT PLAN TO PLAY ANY ROLE IN THE MATTER.

3. COMMENT: BEAVOGUI'S UNUSUALLY GRUFF AND TRUCULENT ATTITUDE MAY HAVE BEEN DUE TO SLOW BURN OVER US FAILURE TO BE RESPONSIVE ON PROVISION OF COASTAL PATROL BOATS, WHICH
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SUBJECT HE BROUGHT UP AT THE END OF THIS CONVERSATION(SEE SEPTTEL). HIS POSITION ON ZAIRE WAS PREDICTABLE, ALTHOUGH HE CAME OUT MORE OPENLY THAN EXPECTED ON NEED FOR REMOVAL OF MOBUTU. REGRETFULLY, IT LOOKS AS THOUGH WE CANNOT COUNT ON GUINEA AS A MODERATING INFLUENCE AT KHARTOUM.

4. ACTION REQUESTED: AS WE HAVE NO DETAILED EXPOSITION OF RATIONALE BEHIND US POSITION ON ZIONISM-RACISM, REQUEST DEPARTMENT CABLE SUCH ASAP IN INTEREST OF MOST EFFECTIVE PRESENTATION TO GOG. CROSBY

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